



IN 09/945,321

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|             |                                   |                 |                  |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Applicant:  | Gohlke et al.                     | Examiner:       | Walls, Dionne A. |
| Serial No.: | 09/945,321                        | Group Art Unit: | 1731             |
| Filed:      | August 31, 2001                   | Docket No.:     | 13692.2US01      |
| Title:      | DEVICE FOR PURIFYING MOLTEN GLASS |                 |                  |

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 11, 2004.

By:

Name:

*Kristen A. Wall*  
*Kristen A. Wall*

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted after the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits or a first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 or a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), but before the mailing date of: i) a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113; ii) a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311; or iii) an action that otherwise closes prosecution on the application. No fee is due as this statement is submitted as certified below under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) or (2) by the undersigned.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) or § 1.97(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application within three months of filing this statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

Fröhler, A: Discloses the use of gas bubbles to generate a flux in the molten glass in order to dissolve cords and to generate local turbulences to improve the homogenization of the glass melt. It states that the temperature maximum of the melt should preferably be arranged 2 m upstream of the chain of bubblers, since with this measure no further outgassing does occur at the location of the bubbling. Therefore, the bubblers are not used for the refinement of the glass melt.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that the reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

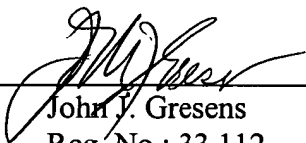
Consideration of the item listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: 3/11/04

By:   
John J. Gresens  
Reg. No.: 33,112  
JJG/TSW



FORM 1449\*

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number:

13692.2US01

Application Number:

09/945,321

Applicant: GOHLKE ET AL.

Filing Date: 08/31/2001

Group Art Unit: 1731

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|--------------|------|------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
|                     |              |      |      |       |          |                               |
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|--|--------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|  |              |      |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
|  |              |      |         |       |          |             |    |
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|  |              |      |         |       |          |             |    |
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## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | Fröhler, A., <i>Glas und Glasprodukte</i> , pp. 73 (1997) |
|  |  |   |
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|  |  |   |

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.